

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 10234 121659 Z

63

ACTION BNDE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 BNDD-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-12

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-07 TRSE-00 USIA-12

NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 SS-15 AID-20 IGA-02 HEW-08 RSR-01

/138 W

----- 052979

R 121554 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9168

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 10234

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SNAR, FR

SUBJECT: ONE FRENCH OFFICIAL' S VIEWS OF ADDICTION PROBLEM IN
FRANCE; " BROWN- SUGAR" HEROIN

DEPT PASS BNDD

REF: STATE 047956

1. IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION, EMBASSY NARCOTICS COORDINATOR, AND SCIATT; DR. CLAUDE- SAMI OLIEVENSTEIN, DIRECTOR OF MARMOTTAN CLINIC, WHO IS FRENCH NARCOTICS TREATMENT AUTHORITY CITED IN REFTEL, PROVIDED FOLLOWING PERSONAL VIEWS ON HEROIN- ADDICTION SITUATION, PAST AND PRESENT, IN FRANCE. THESE VIEWS SERVED AS BACKGROUND FOR HIS COMMENTS (REFTEL) ON " BROWN- SUGAR" FORM OF HEROIN.

2. AS RECOUNTED BY OLIEVENSTEIN, PARIS HEROIN MARKET HAD FOR YEARS BEEN SUPPLIED EXCLUSIVELY BY SMALL- TIME PUSHER- ADDICTS WHO TRAVELLED FROM PARIS TO MARSEILLE TO PURCHASE 100-200 GRAMS AT A TIME OF MARSEILLE HEROIN. THEY THEN SOLD ALMOST ALL OF THIS TO PARISIAN ADDICTS, KEEPING 3 OR 4 GRAMS FOR THEIR PERSONAL USE.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 10234 121659 Z

3. FROM APRIL TO OCTOBER 1972, INTENSIVE POLICE EFFORTS EFFECTIVELY CLOSED LOCAL RPT LOCAL MARSEILLE MARKET, CUTTING OFF SUPPLY OF HIGH- QUALITY WHITE HEROIN TO PARIS. DURING THIS PERIOD OF HEROIN SCARCITY, TWO NEW OPIATE FORMS STARTED TO APPEAR IN PARIS: " BARS" OF OPIUM AND 32- MG PILLS OF MORPHINE.

4. " BROWN SUGAR." A FEW MONTHS AGO MARKED FIRST SIGNIFICANT APPEARANCE IN PARIS OF WHAT ADDICTS CALL " BROWN SUGAR" (UNTRANSLATED), A BROWN CRYSTALLINE SUBSTANCE COMPOSED OF UP TO 33 PERCENT HEROIN AND SOME MORPHINE AND CODEINE (NOTE: PROBABLY ALSO SOME MONO- ACETYLMORPHINE). THIS MATERIAL POSES FAR GREATER DANGER OF OVERDOSE THAN DOES THE DILUTED FORM OF " MARSEILLE" HEROIN AVAILABLE ON THE STREETS BECAUSE " BROWN SUGAR" IS THE MOST CONCENTRATED FORM OF OPIATE AVAILABLE TO THE ADDICT. MARSEILLE WHITE HEROIN IS " CUT" (DILUTED) WITH WHITE, SOLUBLE, NON- TOXIC POWDERS SO THAT ITS COMPOSITION ON THE STREET IS ONLY 2-5 PERCENT HEROIN. OLIEVENSTEIN' S PATIENTS REPORT TO HIM THAT THE SOURCE OF " BROWN SUGAR" FOR THE PARIS MARKET IS THE AMSTERDAM AREA. OLIEVENSTEIN BELIEVES THA IT IS OF ASIAN ORIGIN.

5. IT WAS ON BASIS OF ABOVE INFORMATION THAT OLIEVENSTEIN MADE STATEMENT TO PRESS WHICH LED TO UPI NEWS ITEM AND REFTEL. OLIEVENSTEIN, WHO IS WELL- KNOWN PERSONALITY IN DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT FIELD IN FRENCE, CLAIMED SURPRISE AT LARGE PLAY GIVEN HIS STATEMENT. HE ADDS THAT SITUATION IN FRANCE HAS CHANGED EVEN SINCE THIS PRESS RELEASE BECAUSE " MARSEILLE" WHITE HEROIN IS CURRENTLY AGAIN APPEARING IN INCREASING AMOUNTS IN PARIS.

6. OLIEVENSTEIN STATES THAT HIS OPTIMISM ON CUTTING FRENCH ADDICTION GROWTH HAS DISAPPEARED. SIX MONTHS AGO HEROIN PRICES HAD CLIMBED TO 200-300 FF PER DAY (4 " FIXES") FOR AN ADDICT AND NEW ADDICTION CASES ENCOUNTERED AT OLIEVENSTEIN' S MARMOTTAN CLINIC HAD DROPPED FROM THE SIXTY PER MONTH OF A YEAR AGO TO 45-50 PERMONTH. OLIEVENSTEIN SAYS THAT HEROIN PRICES HAVE NOW DROPPED TO 120-150 FF FOR FOUR " FIXES," AND MARMOTTAN IS NOW RECEIVING 75-90 NEW ADDICTION CASES PERMONTH. OLIEVEN- STEIN SAYS THERE IS NO CURRENT PANIC AMONG FRENCH ADDICTS BECAUSE HEROIN, MORPHINE, AND OPIUM ARE READILY AVAILABLE. HE FEARS THAT THE FRENCH ADDICT POPULATION IS CURRENTLY UNDER- LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 10234 121659 Z

GOING A GREAT EXPANSION.

7. COMMENT: FRENCH NEWSPAPERS AND TELEVISION HAVE RECENTLY PLAYED THE THEME THAT THE TIDE HAS TURNED IN FRANCE AND THE DRUG BATTLE IS BEING WON. THE VIEWS HEREIN REPORTED ARE OF ONLY ONE MAN WHOSE DATA SOURCES ARE HARDLY COMPLETE, BUT IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT DR. OLIEVENSTEIN IS AN ADVISOR TO TWO GOF MINISTRIES, WRITES WIDELY, AND APPEARS OFTEN IN THE FRENCH MEDIA. FURTHERMORE, THIS PESSIMISM HAS BEEN ECHOED IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS OF EMBOFFS AT THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH. WE CANNOT YET DETERMINE WHETHER THE SITUATION TO WHICH OLIEVENSTEIN REFERS IS NON- EXISTENT ON THE FULL- COUNTRY SCALE, IS A TEMPORARY FLARE- UP IN A GENERALLY IMPROVING SITUATION, OR IS INDEED A RENEWED RAPID EXPANSION OF THE DRUG PROBLEM HERE. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT STATISTICAL DATA TO MAKE THIS DETERMINATION. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE QUESTION WITH NEW TEAM AT MINISTRY.
IRWIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS10234
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730441/aaaaijfg.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION BND
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 047956
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <15-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980105
Subject: ONE FRENCH OFFICIAL' S VIEWS OF ADDICTION PROBLEM IN FRANCE; " BROWN- SUGAR" HEROIN
TAGS: SNAR, FR
To: BNDE
SECSTATE WASHDC
THE HAGUE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005